

4. (Amended) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 3, wherein the amount (solid content) of the radiation-resistant agent is 5 to 100 parts by weight relative to 100 parts by weight solid content of the acrylic polymer.

5. (Amended) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 3, wherein the adhesion thereof after irradiation with 60 kGy electron rays, as determined in accordance with JIS Z0237, is 80 to 100% of the adhesion thereof before irradiation.

6. (Amended) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 4, wherein the adhesion thereof after irradiation with 60 kGy electron rays, as determined in accordance with JIS Z0237, is 80 to 100% of the adhesion thereof before irradiation.

Please add the following new claims:

7. (New) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 3, which is selected from the group consisting of adhesive tapes, adhesive plasters, adhesive sheets, adhesive labels, adhesive packaging bags, first-aid adhesive tapes, first-aid adhesive plasters and surgical drapes.

8. (New) A method for sterilizing the radiation-resistant medical adhesive product described in claim 3, comprising sterilizing said radiation-resistant medical adhesive product with radiation.

9. (New) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 3, wherein [the acrylic polymer comprises] one or more alkyl acrylate or a alkyl methacrylate, wherein the alkyl group constituting an ester group in the alkyl acrylate or a alkyl methacrylate compounds is a C₁₋₁₈ alkyl group.

10. (New) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 3, wherein said [acrylic polymer comprises] one or more monomer selected from the group consisting of methyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, propyl acrylate, n-butyl acrylate, isobutyl

acrylate, 2-ethylhexyl acrylate, isooctyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate, ethyl methacrylate, propyl methacrylate, n-butyl methacrylate, isobutyl methacrylate, 2-ethylhexyl methacrylate, and isooctyl methacrylate.

11. (New) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 3, wherein said {acrylic polymer further comprises} one or more comonomer selected from the group consisting of vinyl acetate, styrene, acrylonitrile, acrylamide, dimethylacrylamide, acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, 2-hydroxyethyl acrylate, glycidyl methacrylate, 4-hydroxybutyl acrylate, and N-vinylpyrrolidone.

12. (New) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 3, further comprising one or more additive selected from the group consisting a softener, a filler, a moisture retaining agent, and liquid paraffin.

13. (New) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 12, wherein said additive is one or more softener.

14. (New) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 13, wherein said softener is selected from the group consisting of a process oil, polyisobutylene, and polybutene.

15. (New) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 12, wherein said additive is one or more filler.

16. (New) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 15, wherein said softener is selected from the group consisting of titanium oxide, zinc oxide, aluminum metasilicate, calcium carbonate, and calcium phosphate.

17. (New) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 12, wherein said additive is one or more moisture retaining agent.

18. (New) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 17, wherein said ^{moisture retaining agent} softener is selected from the group consisting of starch, a cellulose derivative, and a polyvinyl alcohol.

19. (New) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 12, wherein said additive is liquid paraffin.

20. (New) A radiation-resistant medical adhesive product comprising an adhesive layer and a substrate layer, wherein said adhesive layer comprises an acrylic polymer and a radiation-resistant agent selected from the group consisting of rosin, rosin derivatives, terpene resin, terpene phenol resin, aromatic modified terpene resin, hydrogenated terpene resin, aliphatic petroleum resin, aromatic petroleum resin, copolymerized petroleum resin, alicyclic petroleum resin, hydrogenated petroleum resin and alkyl phenol resin, and wherein said substrate layer comprises one or more materials selected from the group consisting of paper, synthetic paper, cloth, metal foil, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyvinyl chloride, a polycarbonate, a ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, polyurethane, polystyrene, and a polyimide.

21. (New) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 20, wherein said adhesive layer has a thickness of 5 to 200 μm .

22. (New) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 20, wherein said substrate layer has a thickness of 5 to 1000 μm .

23. (New) The radiation-resistant medical adhesive product according to claim 20, further comprising a release sheet laminated on the surface of the adhesive layer on the surface distal to the substrate.

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claims 1 and 2 have been canceled.

Claims 3-6 have been amended.

Claims 7-23 have been added.

The amendment of Claims 3-6 and new Claims 7-23 are supported by page 1, lines 4-9; page 2, line 20 to page 3, line 1; page 3, lines 6 to page 5, line 25; and page 6, line 15 to page 7, line 6.

No new matter is believed to have been entered by the present amendment.

REMARKS

Claims 3-23 are active in the present application.

At present, the primary sterilization process for medical instruments employs an ethylene oxide gas. However, due to problems resulting from residual gas, in recent years a method of sterilization with radiations (γ -rays, electron rays) came into favor. Radiation sterilization also encounters several problems, most prominent of which is a reduction in the adhesion properties of adhesive products comprising an acrylic adhesive after irradiation compared to the adhesion properties. This undesirable result gives rise to adhesion of adhesive tapes, adhesive plasters or surgical drapes comprising an acrylic adhesive becoming lower than predetermined adhesion, or adhesive labels stuck on medical instruments being easily released. (page 1, lines 11-20).

The present invention solves the problems associated with sterilization of medical instruments and adhesives by providing a radiation-resistant medical adhesive product comprising an acrylic polymer and a radiation-resistant agent selected from the group consisting of rosin, rosin derivatives, terpene resin, terpene phenol resin, aromatic modified terpene resin, hydrogenated terpene resin, aliphatic petroleum resin, aromatic petroleum resin,